

Central California Seasonal Closures Between near Cape Mendocino (40°, 10' N. lat.) and Pt. Conception (34°, 27' N. lat.)

The following regulations apply to all state waters; including fishing from shore, boat or man-made structure

Group \ Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
cowcod, bocaccio, yelloweye and canary rockfishes*												
RCG Complex (including all species of rockfish, cabezon and greenlings as defined in Section 1.91)												
lingcod												
ocean whitefish												
California scorpionfish												
California sheephead												
California Halibut												
KEY												
	Recreational fishing is PROHIBITED											
	Recreational fishing is ALLOWED ONLY IN WATERS LESS THAN 20 FATHOMS IN DEPTH; NO MORE THAN 2 SHALLOW NEARSHORE ROCKFISH (AS DEFINED IN SECTION 1.90; INCLUDED BLACK-AND-YELLOW, CHINA, GRASS, GOPHER AND KELP ROCKFISH)											
	Recreational fishing is ALLOWED											

* see other side for pictures of cowcod, bocaccio, yelloweye rockfish and canary rockfish

Bag limits, size limits, fillet lengths, skin requirements and gear restrictions for selected species:
The general bag limit allows an angler to take or possess no more than 20 finfish, with no more than 10 fish of any one species. Within the general bag limit, several species have reduced bag limits (see below). The RCG Complex (rockfish, cabezon, and greenlings) bag limit is 10 in combination of all species. The cowcod, bocaccio, yelloweye rockfish and canary rockfish bag limits have been reduced to zero; take or possession of these species is PROHIBITED. Many species have a minimum fillet length requirement and/or a skin requirement (see below). Filleting of cabezon and greenlings at sea is NOT PERMITTED. Also, rockfish and lingcod have gear restrictions placed upon their take (see below).

Species	Bag Limit	Min. Size Limit (Total Length)	Fillet Length	Skin Requirement	Gear Restrictions
RCG Complex (including all species of rockfish, cabezon and greenlings as defined in Section 1.91)	10 in combination of all species; NOTE: see limits for sub categories below.	see specifics	see specifics	see specifics	see specifics
Shallow nearshore rockfish * (as defined in Section 1.90; includes black-and-yellow, China, grass, gopher and kelp rockfish)	2 fish in combination; also included in the 10 fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	No restrictions	No restrictions	Entire skin attached to fillet	2 hooks and 1 line per angler while fishing for rockfish, or when rockfish or lingcod are in possession
Cabezon * (<i>Scorpaenichthys marmoratus</i>)	3 fish; also included in the 10 fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	15"	Filleting at sea PROHIBITED	Filleting at sea PROHIBITED	No restrictions
Kelp and Rock greenlings * (<i>Hexagrammos decagrammus</i> and <i>H. lagocephalus</i>)	2 fish in combination; also included in the 10 fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	12"	Filleting at sea PROHIBITED	Filleting at sea PROHIBITED	No restrictions
Cowcod * (<i>Sebastes levis</i>), Bocaccio * (<i>Sebastes paucispinis</i>), Yelloweye rockfish * (<i>Sebastes ruberrimus</i>) and Canary rockfish * (<i>Sebastes pinniger</i>)	Take or possession PROHIBITED				
Lingcod (<i>Ophiodon elongatus</i>)	2	24"	18"	One inch square patch of skin attached to fillet	2 hooks and 1 line per angler while fishing for lingcod, or when rockfish or lingcod are in possession
California scorpionfish (a.k.a. sculpin) (<i>Scorpaena guttata</i>)	5	10"	5"	One inch square patch of skin attached to fillet	No restrictions
California halibut (<i>Paralichthys californicus</i>)	South of Pt. Sur - 5 North of Pt. Sur - 3	22"	South of Pt. Arena - 16.75" North of Pt. Arena - filleting at sea PROHIBITED	South of Pt. Arena - entire skin attached to fillet* North of Pt. Arena - filleting at sea PROHIBITED	No restrictions
California sheephead (<i>Semicossyphus pulcher</i>)	5	12"	No restrictions	One inch square patch of skin attached to fillet	No restrictions
Ocean whitefish (<i>Caulolatilus princeps</i>)	10	No restrictions	6.5"	One inch square patch of skin attached to fillet	No restrictions

*Species pictured on facing page

*Species pictured on back

* Please see California Sport Fishing Regulations Booklet for 2003 for additional information on these and other species

Department of Fish and Game

Marine Region Headquarters

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(831)649-2870

Report Poachers and Polluters

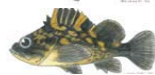
1-888-DFG-CALTIP



China rockfish,
Sebastes nebulosus



Gopher rockfish,
Sebastes carnatus



Black and Yellow rockfish,
Sebastes chrysomelas



Grass rockfish,
Sebastes rastrelliger



Kelp rockfish,
Sebastes atrovirens



Rock greenling
Hexagrammos superciliosus



Kelp greenling
Hexagrammos decagrammus



Cabezon
Scorpaenichthys marmoratus

Rockfish line drawings taken from
Fish Bulletin 157, Miller and Lea, 1972
Color by Lorraine L. Sinclair, PSMFC, 2000

2003 Sport Fishing Regulations

Set of 4 Pamphlets

1. Oregon Border to Cape Mendocino
2. Cape Mendocino to Point Conception
3. Point Conception to Mexico Border and Cowcod Conservation Areas
4. Channel Islands Marine Protect Areas

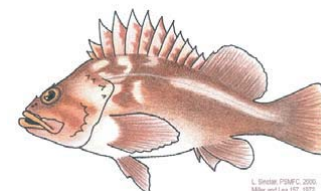
2003

Sport Fishing Regulations for Selected Species

Central California Cape Mendocino to Pt. Conception

Regulations for all rockfish, lingcod, cabezon, greenlings, California sheephead, California scorpionfish (a.k.a. sculpin), ocean whitefish and California halibut

Effective as of January 1, 2003



Copper rockfish, *Sebastes caurinus*

California Department of Fish and Game Marine Region



Attention All Ocean Sport Anglers: The following regulations are subject to change. Fisheries may close early if annual quota limits are reached before the end of the year. Changes will be posted on the Department of Fish and Game Marine Region Web site at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/>

124°

123°

122°

121°

PLEASE TURN THIS CHART OVER

The tables on the back show sport fishing regulations by season for Central California

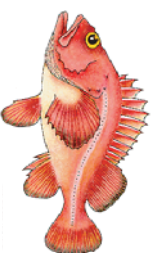
Not intended for use as a navigational aid



Cowcod
Sebastes levis



Canary rockfish
Sebastes pinniger



Yelloweye rockfish
Sebastes ruberrimus



Bocaccio
Sebastes paucispinus

